

REMARKS

The Section 112 rejection, set forth on page 2, has been cured.

Claim 10 calls for the covering on the first trench and over the semiconductor structure being thicker along the center line of the first trench than over the semiconductor structure.

Using a ruler, one can see in Figure 2B of the reference, that the covering 114 has the same thickness over the semiconductor structure and at the center line of the trench. Therefore, the rejection under Section 102 should be reconsidered.

Further, in Figure 2C, it can be seen that the alleged second trench 116 extends parallel to the alleged first trench 106. As explained in the specification, the substrate is further etched in a downward direction "following the profile of the silicon nitride spacers 114a to form a trench 116." See column 3, line 67, through column 4, line 2. Plainly, the trench 116 runs parallel to the trench 106 and, therefore, is not extending across or perpendicular "to a length of said first trench." Instead, it extends parallel, not perpendicular, to the length of the first trench and extends along, not across the length of the first trench. Therefore, reconsideration is requested for this additional reason.

"Across" means to extend from side to side, not through. See Dictionary excerpt attached.

With respect to claim 21, it is asserted that the first trench is 106 and the second trench is 116. But claim 21 calls for the first trench to have a first depth and a second trench to have a second depth wherein the second depth is less than the first depth. Plainly, the trench 116 is deeper than the trench 106.

Moreover, neither trench extends across or perpendicular to the length of the first trench. The attempt to rewrite the claim to call for it to be perpendicular to a length or a width is inappropriate. The claim is explicit that the second trench must extend across and perpendicular to a length of the first trench. It cannot extend perpendicular to the length of the first trench because it extends through it. Therefore, it cannot extend either across or perpendicular.

Moreover, there is no thinner portion of the covering that is over the semiconductor structure because, as shown in Figure 2B, the covering 114 has the same thickness in the trench and over the substrate.

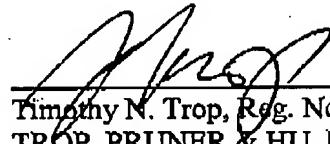
Therefore, reconsideration is requested.

With respect to the dependent claims, dependent claim 18 is rejected, but, plainly, the asserted second trench 116 cannot possibly be said to be shallower than the first trench.

Claim 19 calls for the opening not to extend through the covering in the first trench. But, clearly, since the trench 116 is deeper, as shown in Figure 2C, it must expose the semiconductor structure.

Therefore, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



\_\_\_\_\_  
Timothy N. Trop, Reg. No. 28,994  
TROP, PRUNER & HU, P.C.  
1616 South Voss Road, Suite 750  
Houston, TX 77057-2631  
713/468-8880 [Phone]  
713/468-8883 [Fax]

Attorneys for Intel Corporation

**Webster's  
Third  
New International  
Dictionary  
OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
UNABRIDGED**

compare **BASICOPIC**  
**ac-rose** \a,kro\ n -s [ISV *acrolein* + *-ose*; orig. formed as *G akrose*] : either of two sugars  $C_6H_{12}O_6$  : a : racemic fructose — called also *alpha-acrose* b : inactive sorbose — called also *beta-acrose*  
**ac-ro-some** \a'kro,som\ n -s [ISV *acr-* + *-some*; orig. formed as *G akrosom*] : an anterior cap or hooklike prolongation of a spermatozoon usu. regarded as a derivative of the Golgi apparatus  
**ac-ro-spi're** \,-spī'(ə)r\ n -s [alter. (influenced by *acr-*) of earlier *akerspīre*, *acherspīre*, fr. E dial. *aker*, *acher* ear of grain (fr. OE *ahher*, *æcher*, *ear*) + *spīre* (sprout, blade of grass) — more at *EAR* (spike of grain)] ♦ the spiral plumule in a germinating grain  
**ac-ro-spore** \a'kra,spōr(ə)r\ n -s [F, fr. *acr-* + *-spore*] : a spore (as a basidiospore) borne at the extremity of the sporophore — **ac-ro-spor-ous** \a'kro,spōrəs, a'krōspōrəs\ adj  
**across** \a'kros\ also -s\ adv [ME *acros*, fr. AF *an crois*, fr. *an* in, on (fr. L *in*) + *crois* cross, fr. L *crux* — more at IN, CROSS] 1 : so as to cross transversely : CROSSWISE (boards sawed directly ~) 2 : to or on the opposite side (a stretch of islandless ocean fully 500 miles ~ —F.C. Lincoln) 3 : so as to be understandable, acceptable, or successful : OVER (a highly individual style which comes ~ even in translation —K.I. Lansner) (failed to get his thoughts ~) (the carefully studied and rehearsed technique for putting himself ~ —T.C. Worsley) 4 *dial Eng* : at odds (to get ~ with his friends)  
**across** \\" prep 1 a : from one side to the opposite side of : OVER (to swim ~ the channel) (to peer ~ the barricade) (to sweep her fingers ~ the strings of a harp) b : from one point in time to another (I can remember, ~ the years —W.A. White) 2 a : so as to intersect or pass at an angle (as a right angle) to : crosswise of : at an angle with the length, direction, or course of (to lay one stick ~ another) (the grain of the wood), (a lake lying ~ the state line) b : so as to intrude upon (to flash ~ his mind) 3 : on the other side of (~ the street)  
**across** \\" adj : CROSSED (with arms ~)  
**across-the-board** \a'kro,bord\ adj 1 of a racing bet : placed in combination to win, place, or show 2 : embracing all classes or categories without exception : BLANKET (an *across-the-board* tax cut) 3 of a radio or television program : scheduled at the same time on consecutive days (usu. Monday through Friday) each week  
**acrost** \a'krōst also -st\ *dial var. of ACROSS*  
**ac-ro-ster-nite** \a'krō,ster,nīt\ n -s [*acr-* + *sternite*] : the precostal lip of the sternum of a typical segment of an arthropod  
**acros-tic** \a'krōstik, -tik\ n -s [MP & Gk; MF *acrostiche*, fr. Gk *akrostichis*, fr. *akr-* *acr-* + *stichis* (fr. *stichos* line); akin to *steichein* to go — more at H E A R T STAIR] 1 : a composition usu. in verse in which one or more sets of letters (as the initial, middle, or final letters of the lines) when taken in order form a word, a connected group of words (as a sentence), or the regular sequence of the letters of the alphabet — compare *ABECEDARIUS* 2 a : ACRONYM b : a word made from any of the letters in the words of a phrase 3 : a series of words of equal length, the number of words being the same as the number of letters in each word, so arranged that it is the same when read horizontally or vertically  
**acrostic** \\" also *acros-ti-cal* \a'ksal\ adj : characterized by, containing, or made up by means of an acrostic (an ~ name) (an ~ poem) (an ~ anagram) — *acros-ti-cal-ly* \a'tik(ə)lē\ adv  
**acros-ti-chal** \a'krōstikəl, -tikəl\ adj [*acr-* + *stick* + *-al*] : situated in the highest rank or row — used of certain bristles on the mesonotum of muscoid flies  
**acros-ti-chum** \a'kom\ n, cap [NL, irreg. fr. Gk *akrostichis*: fr. the arrangement of the spores on the leaflets] : a genus of tropical ferns (family Polypodiaceae) with varied habit but with the sporangia covering all the underside of the frond  
**ac-ro-tar-si-al** \a'krō,tär'sēl\ adj [NL *acrotarsium* + E *-al*] : of or relating to the acrotarsum  
**ac-ro-tar-si-um** \a'krō,tär'sēəm\ n, pl *acrotarsia* \-tār'sē\ [NL, fr. *acr-* + *tarsus* + *-um*] : the instep of the foot  
**ac-ro-ter-gite** \a'tar,gīt\ n -s [*acr-* + *tergite*] : the precostal sector of the typical dorsal plate of a segment of an arthropod  
**ac-ro-te-ri-al** \a'krō,tērēl\ adj [*acroteron* + *-al*] : of or like an acroterion  
**ac-ro-te-ri-on** \a'krō,tērē,ən\ or *ac-ro-te-ri-um* \-ēəm\ or *ak-ro-te-ri-* \-ēən, -ēən\ or *ac-ro-ter* also *ak-ro-ter* \a'krō,tēr\ or *akro-teria* \a'krō,tērē\ or *acro-teria* \a'krō,tērē\ or *ac-ro-ters* also *akro-ters* \a'krō,tērēz\ [*acroteron*, *akrotērion* fr. Gk *akrotērion*, fr. *akros* top-most, extreme; akin to Gk *akē* point; — *pediment showing three acroteria* — *gas appears to form of m*